L. Nelson #3/Fre Amde. A 12/18/02 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.:

09/996,350

Filing Date:

November 28, 2001

Applicant:

Richardson, et al.

Group Art Unit:

3724

Title:

PIVOTAL PLANT PROTECTOR

Attorney Docket:

0275S-000542

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

Applicant hereby petitions under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a one-month extension of time in which to respond to the Notice to File Missing parts. Applicant has included a Fee Transmittal with this response for such extension of time.

Prior to examining the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows and consider the remarks set forth below.

03/25/2002 BABRAHA1 00000059 022548 09996350

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IN THE SPECIFICATION

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.125(b), please replace the entire specification, previously submitted, with the following new substitute specification: